



**Finance Newsletter**  
**Alpha Detachment, 176<sup>th</sup> Finance Battalion, Yongsan Korea**  
**March 2003 Edition**



**Cost Of Living Allowance (COLA) Survey**

Payment of COLA is designed to give service members living in high cost areas outside the U.S. the purchasing power of service members living in the U.S. A new COLA survey will be administered in the Republic of Korea from 31 March 03 to 30 April 03. The survey is located on the 175<sup>th</sup> FINCOM website at <http://175fincom.korea.army.mil/>. This new COLA survey is designed to more accurately measure living patterns of service members in Korea. All service members are encouraged to participate.

**Leave and Earning Statement (LES) "ATM"**

Need a current or back dated LES since you were assigned to your unit in Korea? You can now print your current and previous six LES's in the Alpha Detachment, 176<sup>th</sup> Finance Battalion customer service waiting area, Building 2254, across from the Yongsan Bus Terminal. Just type in your SSN at the computer in the waiting room and your LES will be displayed. Pick which LES you would like to print and upon presentation of your ID card, we'll provide you with your LES.

**Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Open Season**

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) is a Federal Government-sponsored retirement savings and investment plan. The TSP is designed to allow soldiers to save a part of their military pay in a retirement plan that offers pre-tax savings, tax-deferred investment earnings, and low administrative and overhead expenses. Soldiers can even borrow against their TSP balances at a low interest rate (currently 3.875%) provided that they maintain at least \$1000 in their accounts. The next open season to enroll in TSP begins April 15<sup>th</sup> and ends June 30<sup>th</sup> 2003. Soldiers may enroll or make changes from the myPay website (<https://myPay.dfas.mil/emss.htm>) or complete and submit TSP Form U-1 to us. The form is available for download from the TSP website: <http://www.tsp.gov/>.

**Points of Contact**

SECTION	POC	PHONE NO.
176 <sup>th</sup> Finance BN Commander	LTC Kucharuk	725-8838
176 <sup>th</sup> Finance BN CSM	CSM Schomburg	723-7959
A Detachment Commander	CPT Sheppard	723-8656
A Detachment XO	2LT Fussnecker	723-8453
A Detachment Sergeant	SFC Smith	723-7699
In and Out Processing	SFC Gibson	723-5676
Chief of Military Pay	SFC Cintron	723-4078
Customer Service	SSG Premo	723-8864
Processing	SSG Jones	723-3589
Travel	SSG Clarke	723-8257
Separations	SSG Borders	723-8453
Reserve Pay	SPC Nwalla	723-4246
175 <sup>th</sup> FINCOM website	<a href="http://175fincom.korea.army.mil">http://175fincom.korea.army.mil</a>	

**OFFICE HOURS**

M, T, W, F 0900-1600 (Open During Lunch)

Cashier Cage closes at 1600 daily

NOTE: Finance is CLOSED every Thursday for Sergeants Time Training